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and witchery, the same glory and deliciousness, that had been about them in dreams ; and lucky the reader, who may set himself down to a book by a writer of genius and enthusiasm, who at that age has gone on his way rejoicing through the old seats of power and magnificence, the haunted scenes of story and song.

Mr. Jewett is not very much of a sentimentalist. We think we might have liked him better, had he been a little more tainted with that too much discredited infirmity. Music and spectacles are his great delight ; the French *cuisine* has strong charms for him ; and we are not sure that his taste for the elegances of artificial society does not wrong a little that relish for some better things, which, however, well vindicates its right to be heard in not a few parts of his fascinating volumes. He loved Paris ; who can wonder ? We should have been glad to have him speak rather more decidedly of some of its abominations, which it fell in his way to mention. But though he has not found himself inclined to act the censor as much as we might have wished, we remember nothing in his volumes which could fairly be construed into any compromise of the stern displeasure due to those monstrosities of a depraved condition of social life, some of which he has occasion to depict.

With all his liking for foreign splendor, Mr. Jewett is a proud and hopeful American, to a degree sufficient, we should think, to satisfy the most exactingly patriotic among his compatriot readers. His work is issued in a style, which shows that he well knew what a highly cultivated eye requires in the external appliances of book-making. The American press has scarcely ever done its office with a more rich and tasteful elegance.

Mr. Jewett has come back to America, and gone back to Ohio. We are too much his well-wishers to desire that his literary may prejudice his legal pursuits ; but, on the other hand, we are too sincere friends to the literature of the country, not to desire earnestly that he may find leisure to render it some of those services of which he is so eminently capable.

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12. — *Sketches of a New England Village, in the Last Century.*  
Boston : James Munroe & Co. 12mo. pp. 110.

THIS little book has been suffered to make its way too silently ; but its way it has made and will make, notwithstanding. It deserved, not a flourish of trumpets, but some softer

prelude, say of flutes and pastoral reeds. We account it one of the sweetest specimens yet produced of a style of composition, which our women of genius will perhaps vindicate for their own *peculum*, or in which, at least, he who will compete with them must be a brave and bright adventurer. It pretends to no great continuity of story, though it contains stories as well compacted as could be desired; and one especially, that of Grace, a tale of as much simple pathos as it would be easy to find elsewhere. Some of the characters are true representatives of classes in New England, as every one may know who has been conversant with its people; though it is by no means every eye that sees them for what they are, till they have been sketched by some such pencil as our author's. Others of the group, as the serving-woman Hannah, and the melancholy schoolmaster, are so much out of the common course, that, if it were less notorious that extraordinary oddities have their large place in this system of things, we should be doubtful respecting the fidelity of the likeness. If the tone of the book is plaintive, its plaint is melodious and soothing. It is apt aliment for the mood which says, "Give me some music; see that it be sad."

13.—*Democracy in America, by Alexis de Tocqueville, Avocat à la Cour Royale de Paris. Translated by HENRY REEVE, Esq. ; with an Original Preface and Notes, by JOHN C. SPENCER, Counsellor at Law. New York : George Dearborn & Co. 8vo. pp. 464.*

SHORTLY after the publication of M. de Tocqueville's work upon this country, we took occasion to treat its contents at length.\* We then expressed our opinion of it as "by far the most philosophical, ingenious, and instructive work, which had been produced in Europe on the subject of America." Of course, we welcome cordially its appearance among us in a form, which opens its contents to our whole reading community. The present publication is a reprint of a translation made in England, with a short Preface by the American editor, who has also appended about twenty pages of Notes. These are not designed to furnish "comments on the theoretical views of the author," an attempt which could have led to little less, on the part of a competent and independent inquirer, than the composition of a new work on the same subjects, but are "confined, with very few exceptions, to the correction of what

\* See *North American Review*, Vol. XLIII, pp. 178 et seq.